

SUMMER-AUTUMN 1999



# MEDWAVES

MAP COORDINATING UNIT- NEWS BULLETIN PUBLISHED IN ARABIC/ENGLISH/FRENCH- NO.39



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Eleventh Ordinary Meeting of the Contracting Parties	27-30 October 1999 <b>Malta</b>
Subregional Joint Exercise (REMPEC/Life Project)	9-11 November 1999 <b>Israel</b>
Workshop on National Observatories for Environment and Development	18-20 November 1999* <b>Tunisia</b>
Workshop on CAMP Malta	22-24 November 1999* <b>Malta</b>
Workshop on Economic Instruments in ICAM (PAP/RAC/MEDCOAST)	November 1999* <b>Antalya (Turkey)</b>
Second Meeting of Experts to amend the Emergency Protocol	December* <b>Catania (Sicily, Italy)</b>
Third Meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD	December 1999* <b>Tunis</b>

*\*The exact dates of these meetings were still to be confirmed at the time of going to press.*

**WHAT IS MAP?**

The Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) strives to protect the environment and to foster development of the Mediterranean Basin. It was adopted in Barcelona (Spain) in 1975 by Mediterranean states and the EC, under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Its legal framework is made up of the Barcelona Convention (1976, revised in 1995) and six Protocols covering certain specific aspects of environmental protection. The Action Plan is built up around an Athens-based Coordinating Unit, six Regional Activity Centres scattered around the whole of the Mediterranean, and a MED POL Programme on pollution monitoring and control. The Mediterranean states and the EU meet every two years to decide on MAP's budget and programme.

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To consult the MAP Homepage:

[Http://www.unepmap.org](http://www.unepmap.org)

**Preparing for the Eleventh Ordinary Meeting**

The MAP national focal points met in Athens from 6-9 September 1999 to review the state of play on the Action Plan, and to put the finishing touches to the draft budget for the 2000-2001 biannual exercise, which will then go to the meeting of the Contracting Parties next October in Malta for adoption. It was up to them to clear the ground for the Eleventh Ordinary Meeting, leaving it free to concentrate on the major political questions and the decisions which they demand. Since the next issue of MEDWAVES will largely be devoted to the Malta meeting, any attempt to preempt upon it in the light of adjustments made in Athens would be ill-timed or premature. By tragic coincidence, the day after the opening of the meeting of focal points, where a minute's silence was observed in memory of the some 14 000 victims of the Turkish earthquake, the city of Athens was in turn rocked by a quake. Although in no way comparable in terms of the number of victims and scale of damage, it nevertheless served to confirm through the official statements and acts, as well as the spontaneous popular reactions in the riparian states, that Mediterranean solidarity is no empty word.

Cover page:  
Enrico Iaria, with the authorization of the APT  
Reggio Calabria



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PAPER

## "MAP? WHAT MAP?"

No-one needs opinion polls to realise that the general public as well as the media in the region still know precious little about the existence of the Mediterranean Action Plan. The fact that for almost 25 years there has been a United Nations programme which brings together all the governments of the riparian states in the fight against pollution and in the rehabilitation of their common sea, that this programme has a well-developed and productive cooperation network to its credit, as well as a very comprehensive environmental legal framework, common measures and standards, and a high level think-tank and forum for consultation are all matters of which your "average Mediterranean" is under the very best of circumstances only made fleetingly aware, by the local press, for example when his town hosts a meeting on the environment.

This state of affairs, politely referred to as a "shortage of information", has, however, to be put into perspective. Firstly, although United Nations programmes abound, covering very different and important aspects of the lives of the inhabitants of our planet, those commonly known to the general public are few and far between- they could be counted on the fingers of one hand. The fact is that the acronyms with which they are referred to, and which are mushrooming along with their components,

the complicated nature of their workings and the activities they organise, and the jargon they use whenever the opportunity arises, put off both layman and media alike.

A "car-free day", or a TV report on the fate of a threatened species generate more impact than work which extends over several years and which results in technical regulations and far-reaching but not particularly spectacular change.

Not to mention the fact that the media tends to devote more column space to the sensational or alarmist side of environmental issues, a "Mediterranean Condemned" being a better money-spinner than a Mediterranean "in convalescence" or "recovered".

We could just resign ourselves to this state of affairs which, when all's said and done, is pretty widespread, and does not prevent the programme from working. But looming changes mean that such ignorance is becoming a major handicap. Firstly, the lack of information serves to heighten the feeling within the general public that "nothing is being done"- at regional and national level- for the Mediterranean environment, and that "the problems will only get worse in any case". Certain aspects which "stand out a mile" tend to support this fatalism which is a factor of passivity- coastal urbanisation, litter on the beaches, increasing air pollution, and the severe problems- water, desertification, biodiversity- affecting certain

### **Discussion of strategy at the Athens meeting, 1-2 April 1999.**

#### **Objective: How to make MAP better known and why?**

Information/communication experts from the 6 member countries of the Bureau examined a draft 'MAP Information Strategy'. They added recommendations for the Bureau and the meeting of the Contracting Parties in Malta.

- As an introduction, Mr. L. Chabason, MAP Coordinator, highlighted the mismatch which exists between the considerable amount of work accomplished by MAP since 1975, and the highly negative view which the public has of the environment in the region. It was in order to make good this mismatch that the Mediterranean countries at their meeting in Tunis in November 1997, invited the MAP Secretariat to "draw up and present a programme of concrete actions in the field of information".

- Mr. A. Hoballah, Deputy Coordinator, responsible for information, in turn stressed the need to place information at the very heart of MAP's strategic management, and to ensure that a "communication culture" pervaded all activities within the programme.

- Three international experts, Mrs. Andriana Ierodiakonou-Berlind from Anatalia College (Salonika), Mr. Kelvin Grose, from the secretariat for the Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Mr. Vincent Jacques le Seigneur, advisor to the French Ministry for the Environment, provided the technical knowledge necessary to the discussions, which centred on three main headings from the draft 'MAP Information Strategy': the product (what needs to be communicated); the target (to whom the product needs to be communicated); and the means (the resources and methods to be used). All the national experts, representing the member countries of the Bureau, agreed on some general lines and shaped them into recommendations which were included in the draft strategy before it was reworked and approved by the Bureau meeting in Tripoli, for submission to the Ordinary meeting in Malta next October. The main points:

- the creation within the MED Unit of a full-time post for an information officer, whose job would largely involve improving relations with the media;

- the creation of a post of librarian-documentation officer, likewise full-time;

- focal points for information to be appointed for each country, to be responsible for enhancing MAP's image vis a vis their public authorities, and possibly also national and local media;

sites. To the extent that they mask the successes achieved elsewhere: multiplication of wastewater treatment facilities, and the improved quality of bathing water, a change in attitude on the part of industry, the success of nature reserves and parks, the growth of the associative movement, the awakening of the local authorities to what is at stake, the precautionary principle which is being more systematically invoked as we are gripped with scientific uncertainty about our future. Since Rio and the coming of age of the idea of sustainable development, we are gradually getting to a stage where any major political decisions can only become effective if they have the active and determined support of public opinion and all players in civil society. Frank and transparent information is no longer a mere tributary to success- it is an essential precondition. It is within this context that MAP, in line with a decision taken at the Tenth Ordinary Meeting in Tunis in November 1997, decided to launch an "Information Strategy", aimed at spurring on all its component parts to make its aims and objectives better known. A meeting of experts organised in Athens last April, and which is briefly reported on here, revealed the complexity of the problem. We are dealing with different target publics and therefore need different means to get across to them. Which means that we need to put them into some form of hierarchical order. In spite of their staggering development, new communication

technologies are still no panacea. Although there can be no turning back, it is still too early to use them in certain countries because of the initial cost and the existence of a less permeable cultural context. And finally, to what extent is MAP, an intergovernmental body, mandated to speak on behalf of the Contracting Parties, and what scope does it have to frankly raise certain environment/development problems likely to put a given country or region in an awkward position, and exposing itself to the risk of seeing the facts twisted or misrepresented by the media? It goes without saying that MEDWAVES has its place within these problems. From the earliest days, its editorial line has been divided between its primary vocation, which is to act as MAP's information mouthpiece for MAP, and the desire to make its content more accessible to a broader public- starting with the NGOs- by devoting dossiers to countries or major problems within the region. The Athens meeting did not settle this issue, but it did establish some lines of attack: to review the design/presentation of the bulletin by more closely involving the activity centres and the stakeholders in the region, putting an electronic version on MAP's website to make it into a "newspage", and increasing the frequency of publication whilst cutting down on the number of pages to track current events more closely. It will be up to the meeting of the Contracting Parties in Malta to react to these recommendations which should make the programme more visible.

**MedWaves**

### **Discussion of strategy** (continued p.3)

- Design and use of a common MAP template (MAP brand identification) for all MAP publications;
- Concerted efforts by each Centre, component and MAP focal point to increase awareness of MAP and its achievements within its sphere of influence;
- Improve the quality of publications (particularly presentation);
- Give priority to certain target groups such as children/adolescents.
- New communication technologies dominated the discussions about means: in the long term the new media are much cheaper than conventional ones. As we gravitate towards Internet technology, the cost of the traditional media are transferred to the network and, ultimately, to the user (who pays for the connection, does his own printing, etc.), and the scope and circulation increase exponentially, reaching "virtual" communities. But for the time being many obstacles still stand in the way of this sea-change, which will be irreversible in the long term- lack of use of the keyboard, the privileged place of English, the difficulties of adaptation for certain cultures, and the initial cost of installation and connection, which can discourage poorer authorities.
- Finally, in terms of relations with the media, opinions were more divided: some participants stressed a degree of "caution", whilst others thought that it was not necessarily a bad thing if the media tended to exploit negative aspects, because the problems do exist after all, and highlighting them helps to solve them and to raise the awareness of the public which can in turn lobby those responsible.
- Which brought up the essential question of "transparency of information": the Deputy Coordinator recalled that in adopting MAP's legal texts the countries had made a series of commitments. NGOs and the public were now looking to MAP at this "moment of truth". Would the programme settle for being a simple mailbox for the information which the countries agreed to send in, or would it in the near future have to answer the point that promises were made, but had they been kept? Otherwise, MAP would remain on the surface, it would lose credibility in the eyes of the NGOs and public opinion, and would swim against the tide of the evolution of the Convention and its Protocols. It will be up to the Contracting Parties to provide the answer during their meeting in Malta by granting the means for this transparency, or not as the case may be.

## MEDPOL'S DAY OF RECKONING

Two main documents underpin MEDPOL activities today: the Land-Based Sources Protocol, whose updated 1996 version should soon come into force, and the Strategic Action Programme to address pollution from Land-Based Activities (SAP). In adopting this second document at the Tenth Meeting in Tunis in October 1997, the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention committed themselves to the gradual elimination of the various forms of pollution, with a time schedule to be respected. The SAP enjoys special funding from the GEF project for the Mediterranean, to a tune of 6.29 million dollars, for which twelve riparian states are eligible, a contribution of 3 million dollars from the countries, and 1.12 million from MAP in cash and in kind. To that should be added the contribution of 1.6 million dollars from the French GEF (FFEM). This overall package, which in itself adds up to more than a normal annual budget for MAP, means that we are now moving into a phase of concrete achievement in the fight against pollution at regional level. The Protocol/SAP pair has in a sense become the motor of a two-stroke engine - driving activities, with each backing up the other at legal and operational level. And, in expectation of the

Protocol's coming into force, it is fair to say that implementation of the activities planned by the SAP for the forthcoming biennium corresponds directly to what is laid down by the Protocol, thus anticipating and preparing for its effective implementation.

- This represents a major step forward, which clearly indicates that "pollution control" is the dominant factor in MED POL Phase III ("assessment" having dominated Phases I and II). Several meetings and activities which are reported on here bear witness to this. To begin with, the workshop held in Athens on "Compliance and Enforcement of Legislation in the Mediterranean for the Control of Pollution resulting from Landbased Sources". The term "enforcement", with the idea of coercion which it implies, corresponds to the final stage of the anti-pollution legal system. The fact that this system already exists in all the countries is an essential precondition, but it is not enough: it still needs to be genuinely implemented. For the first time within MAP, experts spoke of an "inspectorate", of "granting authorisation", "offences and penalties", "closing down factories", "ecoauditing", "ways of recourse for offenders", etc. But as the success of any antipollution policy cannot depend solely upon coercion,

### THE MED POL MEETINGS:

#### • Athens, 16-18 March 1999: Workshop for Experts on Compliance and Enforcement of Legislation

in the Mediterranean for the control of pollution resulting from land-based sources. Organised under MED POL by UNEP/MAP and the WHO. Legal basis: article 6 of the LBS Protocol (strengthening or setting up of inspectorates). Participation: Experts from 18 Mediterranean countries and the EC, along with 5 international experts, and representatives of IOC/UNESCO, METAP, the Blue Plan, the Barcelona Centre for clean production, CEFIC/EUROCHLOR, and Greenpeace. Meeting opened by Mr. T. Koliopanos, Greek Deputy Minister for the Environment.

• Following an introduction to the main subjects for discussion by the international experts (R. Glaser, Netherlands; P. Panagopoulos, Greece; Mr. Francois Durand, France; G. Boeri, Italy; and E. Adly, Egypt), sixteen national experts presented reports on the situation in their respective countries. These reports were annexed to the report of the meeting and provide a very complete picture of the situation which prevails on compliance in the Mediterranean. (Document UNEP (OCA) / MED WG. 160/1, in English and French).

#### • Main recommendations from the meeting:

- To set up an informal regional network on compliance and enforcement of legislation;
- To launch back-up activities (capacity building, training courses) for the inspectorates;
- To promote inventories of waste and transfer of pollutants in industry, public access to these inventories and the right of public recourse in the event of presumed infringement. (Meeting report: UNEP (OCA) /MED WG. 161/7)

#### • Reggio Calabria, 20-23 June 1999: Meeting of MED POL National Coordinators

to review the implementation of MED POL Phase III and of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP). Participation: national coordinators from 19 riparian states and the EC, representatives of the IAEA, the IOC, the WHO, the WMO, ICS/UNIDO and METAP, as well as the CP/RAC, the IMC, Greenpeace, EcoMediterranea and MED Forum. Organised with the financial backing of the city of Reggio and the Region of Calabria, and logistical support from the Fondo EuroMediterraneo. Aim of the meeting: to examine activities to be undertaken in 2000-2001 under the SAP and MED POL Phase III, with the draft budget which will be forwarded to the meeting of focal points.

participants spoke of the new ideas of "self-monitoring" and "voluntary commitments" (through which an industrial company promises to respect the planned objectives off its own bat, using the means it feels appropriate, thus relieving the authorities of an administrative burden), use of cleaner technologies and the best available techniques, which mean that pollution can be limited upstream, or at its source. The same drive for efficiency also inspired most of the comments made at the meeting of MED POL national coordinators in Reggio Calabria. Starting with the SAP: as Mr.F.S Civili, MED POL Coordinator, recalled at the outset, the programme is expected to be implemented over a period of about 25 years, and the cut-off date for the completion of a number of activities is set within the next ten years at the latest. However, whilst considering how to assist countries in the concrete implementation of the SAP, it became clear to the Secretariat that the most practical and effective means for reviewing and approving an operational phase of the Programme would be to present a detailed workplan and timetable for the activities to be implemented in each biennium. This approach would allow the SAP to constantly track developments and needs of the region in real time and consequently to provide realistic and monito-

nable targets and activities every two years.

As a result, for the forthcoming biennium (2000-2001) the activities proposed for implementation are those which are essential in the Secretariat's mind, in order to provide all countries with the necessary tools (guidelines, strategies, regional plans and programmes for sharing and exchanging technical information and advice, priority capacity building and public participation activities), to enable them to initiate the process which will allow them to fulfill most of their priority objectives, particularly in view of the new activities introduced by the provisions of the amended L.B.S. Protocol. The activities foreseen for the forthcoming biennium take into account those which will be financed by the Mediterranean GEF Project, as well as other continuous activities from the MED POL Programme: compliance, trends and biological effects monitoring programmes, priority activities on reporting to be included in the general notification system, activities related to the L.B.S. Protocol included in the activities linked to the formulation of National Action Plans for the elimination of land-based pollution. The implementation of National Action Plans represents the operational long-term result of the Strategic Action Programme, as they are supposed to make use of the

#### THE MED POL MEETINGS *(continued p.5)*

- Mr.F. S. Civili, MED POL Coordinator, introduced the proposed work plan and timetable of SAP activities during the 2000-2001 biennium: sets of indicators (treatment and disposal of various kinds of waste), pilot research projects, regional plans and strategies, national action plans, clean technologies in industry, and reports. Document reworked and approved for submission to the meeting of the Contracting Parties.
- Mr. F. S. Civili and Mr. G. Kamizoulis, WHO/Euro Senior Scientist provided an assessment of MED POL for the 1998-1999 biennium. The WMO representative drew participants' attention to three recent technical reports on the Mediterranean by his organisation (mercury, aerosols and POPs), and the coordinator from Monaco reminded them of the collaboration between MED POL and RAMOGE (tripartite agreement France- Italy- Monaco), particularly on biomonitoring and the quality of bathing water.
- The examination of the MED POL draft budget for 2000-2001 and some draft recommendations gave certain participants the opportunity to raise issues such as the assessment of litter on the beaches, and biomonitoring.
- Finally, participants looked at two important documents. The first of these, "Waste water treatment plants in Mediterranean coastal cities", the first of its kind to provide an assessment of the situation in the region fourteen years after the commitment made in the 1985 Genova Declaration (to set up treatment plants in all towns with more than 100 000 inhabitants on the Mediterranean seafont, is based on a survey carried out in 19 riparian states. In the conclusions it refers to the shortcomings which still have to be made good before a reliable comparative study can be carried out at regional level: demographic data which is often inadequate, particularly concerning seasonal population flows (important if the amount of excess water to be treated during the summer season is to be calculated), sparse or still incomplete information on the volume of waste water produced, the degree of treatment which it undergoes, and on the amounts going into septic tanks. The annex to the document, however, nevertheless contains country by country tables and diagrams which represent a first investigative tool. The second document, "Guidelines for the management of dredged material" (see last edition of Medwaves), makes an important contribution towards solving this problem in the Mediterranean.

results of the whole range of activities identified in the SAP. The same drive for efficiency applies to all of the usual MED POL activities, run in cooperation with United Nations' organisations such as FAO, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), the WHO, and the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC), and with relatively younger institutions such as the RAMOGE Agreement under which there is already joint activity in the biomonitoring field. Within their respective spheres of competence, the Centre in Barcelona (cleaner production), and the REMPEC in Malta will also be involved. The latter is at present involved in a whole series of activities in the region (particularly under a project involving

Cyprus, Egypt and Israel) to combat accidental marine pollution, major marine pollution incidents (operational discharge from ships), and to install appropriate port reception facilities.

And a drive for efficiency in restructuring MED POL's "research" chapter, which is to be targeted at creating a more dynamic mechanism capable of identifying and following up new pollution-related problems using restricted scientific meetings, and granting funds to Mediterranean research centres selected to carry out specific studies. The aim is to ensure that the finger is constantly on the pulse of the region, and to keep track of types of pollution which are continuously evolving as new challenges loom on our

global horizon.

Finally, efficiency equals qualifications, equals training. Over the last two years, given the shortcomings noted in the operation and management of wastewater treatment facilities, two regional courses for the training of trainers in this area were organised by the WHO and MAP, in Sophia Antipolis in April 1999, and in Athens in May 1999. A national course was run in Alexandria in April 1999. This training will be actively continued during the next exercise under REMPEC (contingency plans for accidental marine pollution) and MED POL (data quality assurance, intercalibration, and inspectorates to check compliance with anti-pollution legislation). ■

### **Calabria: the vigilance of the local authorities**

*In hosting the meeting of MED POL national coordinators, the town of Reggio and region of Calabria wanted to show how committed they are to protecting the environment. Opening the meeting, Mr. Italo Falcomata, mayor of Reggio, pointed out that his town was aware of the new development issues. For example, since Reggio still does not have a waste water treatment plant, steps are being taken to provide one in the near future. For his part, Mr. Luigi Meduri, President of the region, stressed the positive economic effects of the recent tourism boom in Calabria, but also*

*the risks which it entailed for environments which were either still intact or fragile. In fact, having long stood on the sidelines of mainstream summer tourism, or serving as a simple transit area for those heading for Sicily, just a stone's throw away across the sea, Calabria, at the southernmost tip of the Italian peninsula, has now become the flavour of the month, a position which it is trying to cope with whilst respecting its particularly rich natural and cultural heritage. The tip of the boot, situated at the point where the Tyrrhenian Sea meets the Ionian, alternates between limestone cliffs, granite and gneiss reefs, and long beaches of fine sand-like Tropea on the Tyrrhenian coast. The hinterland hides a rugged*

*beauty, tempered by the lakes and the chestnut and evergreen oak forests of the Sila and Aspromonte massifs, the latter culminating in the Montalto (1 956m). At Tiriolo, on the lower slopes of the Sila Piccola, a unique panorama of the two seas unfolds. As for the museum of Reggio, it houses some superb pieces, which serve as a reminder that this part of Italy was once part of Magna Grecia. The Greeks were followed by the Romans, the Byzantines, the Normans (in the XIth century), and the Aragonese (in the XVth century). The region was to be attached to Italy in 1860. Here as in many other key sites around the Mediterranean, the cultures which settled*

*here have never really died: they are still reflected in the gestures, the customs, the mentalities, the crafts, and even the culinary specialities of the present.*

*- It should also be stressed that Italy has occupied a special place in MED POL over recent years: in Siracusa in 1995 it hosted the first technical meeting on the 1980 L.B.S. Protocol revision and, in 1996 in the same town, the conference of plenipotentiaries for the adoption of the revised Protocol, a session for a review of the SAP in Ischia in June 1997, and finally the Reggio meeting last June. In so doing, Italy has permitted the addition of a key weapon to the Mediterranean's anti-pollution arsenal.*



Reggio Calabria, Duomo

## THE MEDITERRANEAN COMMISSION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROMOTES THE "VALUE ADDED" OF ITS WORK

*The 5th meeting of the MCSD in Rome*

Seven inter-session meetings of the MCSD's thematic working groups, a meeting of its Steering Committee in March 1999 in Tunis..... the fifth meeting of the MCSD which was held last July in Rome was called upon to examine a huge amount of work which had been completed on six medium term themes, to approve two new sets of recommendations, and to take decisions on several questions concerning its future activities. Four months earlier, the meeting of its Steering Committee had given rise to an in-depth discussion and produced certain conclusions which had partly cleared the ground: better identification and preparation of themes, the implementation of recommendations which, for

certain themes of major importance, could lend themselves to strategic action or demonstration programmes, the need to make the recommendations submitted to the Contracting Parties more operational, and to make the Commission more "visible" whilst improving the circulation of its results.

A meeting of the MCSD is no "recording session". Devised as a talking shop and forum for reflection, each thematic group gives an update of its work and proposals to the whole Commission (including observers) which then makes comments, approves or criticises, highlights a positive point or points out any shortcomings. Thanks to this lively exchange, each theme grows or crystallises out, recommenda-

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### THE INTER-SESSION MCSD MEETINGS

• **Geneva, 3 February 1999, expert group on "free trade and the environment"**

*(Organisers: Lebanon, Blue Plan).*

*Message of caution sounded on the unforeseeable effects on the environment, trade balance and society of creating a free trade zone between countries with different levels of development. A systemic approach to sustainable development is unavoidable.*

• **Gammarth (Tunis), 8-9 March 1999, meeting of the Steering Committee of the MCSD**

*Chaired by Mr. Mlika, Tunisian Minister for the Environment. All the members of the Committee took part (MIO-ECSD, Cyprus, Spain, EOAN, Monaco, Municipality of Silifke, and Tunisia).*

*Objective: to examine questions on the working method, follow-up of recommendations, the preparation of the Strategic Review for the year 2000, cooperation with the UNO/CSD, and the national CSDs. Examination of a rather "critical", even "self-critical" report by the Secretariat. Lack of information about the MCSD's work stressed by all speakers. Emphasis on the idea of the "value added" of the MCSD's work compared with that of other bodies in the region. Examination of a set of new themes and their selection criteria: concern about the need to rationalise, simplify and pool themes in "mega-themes", even if it means giving priority to certain aspects. Tunisia confirmed its offer to host the 6th meeting of the MCSD with a ministerial segment which would be the occasion to assess MED 21 +5.*

• **Split, 26-27 April 1999, meeting of experts on "Management of urban development"**

*Egypt, MEDCITES, Turkey, Blue Plan, PAP). Urban audits, experiences of towns represented at the meeting, national experiences. Analysis of strong urban growth linked with inadequate institutional development. Identification of constraints. Proposal for an urban observation network (around 70 towns). Work plan and timetable.*



tions are picked over and their thrust corrected. This essential critical role of an MCSD plenary session was exploited to the full in Rome. Apart from the indicators, which are dealt with in a brief dossier in this issue, certain key ideas emerged from the discussions of the other themes which stand out from the presentations made by the task managers:

The proposals on **tourism** must take account of any measures likely to be taken to promote specialised forms of tourism (cultural tourism, green tourism, but also domestic tourism alongside the more conventional forms of international tourism). Tourism is a highly complex sector because of the large number of stakeholders involved, whom it is very difficult to involve in the global, integrated vision needed in order for it to be developed on a sustainable basis. Voluntary initiatives and self-control schemes do, however, offer a possible way forward. Efforts should also be targeted at the countries from which the tourists come, in order to foster in them attitudes and practices respectful of the environment in their place of destination. The proposal to study the feasibility of a Mediterranean support mechanism for the sustainable development of the sector deserves to be encouraged. The MCSD agreed to entrust the MED Unit and the task managers with the job of adapting the group's conclusions and recommendations in the light of the comments made.

On the **information, awareness**

**and participation** theme, if they are to be effective awareness-raising techniques should be adapted to the gender and age of the target groups. The group's recommendations should be implemented by MAP's focal points and integrated into the work of the other thematic groups, this being a "horizontal" theme par excellence. Concentration was organised on the sidelines of the meeting in order to choose four or five practical recommendations from a broad selection, for submission to the Contracting Parties.

On **free trade**, a particularly innovative and complex theme, and which also fits into the perspective of the Euromediterranean partnership process with the free trade zone to which it should give rise in the long term, the highly ambitious nature of the group's work programme was highlighted. Any model which failed to take account of the specific conditions in the Mediterranean would be doomed to failure, and the social, environmental and cultural dimensions should be stressed (they were somewhat neglected in the association agreements concluded between the European Union and the Mediterranean third countries).

Regarding **industry and sustainable development**, emphasis was placed on the SMEs, particularly those which are not integrated within the major industrial areas, which generally tends to be the case in the Mediterranean. It was agreed that the major chemical industries had made significant contri-

#### THE INTER-SESSION

##### MCSD MEETINGS (continued p.8)

##### • Split, 6-7 May 1999, meeting of working group on "Tourism and sustainable development"

(Organisers: Spain, EOAEN, Egypt, Blue Plan, PAP). Restricted experts meeting in order to flesh out the proposals from the Antalya workshop (see *Medwaves*, last edition no.38), and draft the final version. Recommendations and proposals for action grouped under five headings: capacity building, setting up of networks, information and awareness, specific tools, feasibility study for the setting up of a Mediterranean body.

##### • Sophia Antipolis (France), 10-11 May 1999, Workshop on indicators for sustainable development

(France, Tunisia, Blue Plan) (see later article on indicators p.11).

##### • Masa Carrara, 16-17 May 1999, meeting of working group on "Industry and Sustainable Development"

(Italy, Algeria, FID, MED POL, CP/RAC). Promoting awareness in industry. Improved exchange of information and capacity building. Multinational strategies. Company modernisation process.

##### • Athens, 24-25 May 1999, meeting of working group on "Information, awareness and participation"

(MIO-ECSDE, CREE, MEDU). Examination of document drawn up by the MIO-ECSDE seen as a reference document for any work on this subject in the Mediterranean as elsewhere. Proposal to set up a network of information focal points in the relevant administrations in each riparian state. Formulation of recommendations submitted to Rome. Need, according to the group, to continue its work for two years.

##### • Barcelona, 4-5 June 1999, meeting of working group on "Free trade and the environment"

(Lebanon, MEDU, CP/RAC). Further study of lessons learned from the North-American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), already examined in Geneva. Decision to focus work on three key sectors of the free trade-environment relationship:

./..

butions to reducing emissions and pollution through a mixture of instruments and voluntary measures, a trend which should be encouraged and extended to smaller companies.

On **management of urban development**, the European Union has already built up a lot of experience in this field, which it is willing to share with others. The working group should focus on certain action-oriented aspects, particularly by setting up an observation network bringing together some 70 towns on questions for which they have the required capacity, and in order to exchange data and experience.

Turning to its **future activities**, the meeting decided that the Coordinating Unit would study the feasibility of the seven proposed new themes, with emphasis on "waste" and "agricultural and rural development", in order to assess for each of them the value added which could be expected from their being dealt with by the MCSD. This idea of value added should also govern the drawing up of the "Strategic review for the year 2000", foreseen in the Commission's remit: it will not only deal with the state of the Mediterranean environment, and will not be limited to the activities of MAP and the MCSD alone, but will embrace activities undertaken by all stakeholders towards making the Agenda MED 21 programme reality, and dealing with questions such as decision taking, capacities, and governance at regional, national and local level, and within civil society and the NGOs. ■

### What they said at the opening of the 5th meeting of the MCSD in Rome:

*"Since its establishment in 1972, UNEP has given prime consideration to the maintenance of the ecological integrity of the Regional Seas. The Mediterranean was UNEP's first regional seas programme. And I am proud to say its most successful one....As a forum for dialogue and a think tank for strategic issues, the MCSD constitutes a bridge between global and regional impetus and decisions and the efforts of countries at the national and local levels."*

**Klaus Topfer,**

Executive Director of UNEP

*"The Mediterranean is both rich and vulnerable and needs pragmatic policies and measures for sustainable development that are understood, accepted and implemented by all actors....It is particularly apt that the Commission should include cities, their networks and local authorities among its members."*

**Francesco Rutelli,**

Mayor of Rome

*"In spite of the constraints and the many difficulties encountered in the search for a difficult compromise between the legitimate needs of development and the delicate environmental balances, the Commission has managed to produce serious, in-depth analyses and thinking on such sensitive and crucial themes as water demand management and the sustainable management of coastal areas."*

**Faiza Kefi,**

Tunisian Minister  
for the Environment,  
President of the MCSD

### THE INTER-SESSION

#### MCSD MEETINGS

agriculture, industry, consumption trends. Examination of a case study from Lebanon (phosphate-based fertilisers, agro-food industry). Need for synergy with EC and METAP.

#### • ROME, 1-3 JULY 1999, THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE MCSD

Hosted by the "Commune di Roma" at the City Hall on the Capitol (Campidoglio). Chaired by the new Tunisian Minister for the Environment, Mrs. F. Kefi, President of the MCSD's Steering Committee. Participation: the 30 members of the MCSD, the representatives of all the regional centres and the MAP Secretariat, 10 specialised institutions of the United Nations, and other inter-governmental organisations. Keynote statements by Mr. V. Calzolaio, Italian Under-secretary of State for the Environment, Mrs. De Petris, Deputy Mayor of Rome on behalf of the Mayor, Mr. F. Rutelli, Mr. K. Topfer, Executive Director of UNEP. Meeting opened by Mrs. F. Kefi. Secretariat's activity report presented by Mr. A. Hoballah, Deputy Coordinator of MAP. Successive presentation by task managers of their groups' activity reports on the 6 medium-term themes. Examination of the working method and follow up of recommendations, new themes and their selection criteria, the "Strategic Review for the Year 2000" for which the meeting agreed on a methodology: creation of a working group (Tunisia, Greece, EOAEN, MIO-ECSDE), responsible for preparing a standard report to be provided by MCSD members and observers, to summarize all the reports sent in and to circulate a preliminary summary report 2 months before the 6th meeting of the MCSD. Confirmation of Tunisia's offer to host this meeting with a ministerial segment. Meeting of Steering Committee planned before the end of 1999 to prepare for the 6th meeting.

## What need indicators?

For more than a century indicators have regularly been used in the economy to assess trends and phenomena, and to draft and adapt policy. An indicator which unexpectedly switches to red- such as the rate of inflation- can have serious repercussions on the financial markets and indeed on our daily lives. Or positive ones if it turns green. Nowadays there are indicators for all aspects and areas of economic, social, ecological, and even cultural life, and several international organisations have created indicators in order to measure certain global developments (such as the UNDP's indicator of human development (IHD), and the indicator of human poverty (IHP)). Indicators also serve as criteria of eligibility for financing (IMF), or accession to political and economic groups (the EU's convergence criteria). After the 1992 Earth Summit and the adoption of the concept of sustainable development, there was very quickly a call to adopt indicators to this end. Particularly since there is no clear, manageable definition of the "sustainability" introduced by the Brundtland report, which could be applied in any context (satisfying the needs of present-day generations without compromising the ability of future generations to satisfy theirs). Sustainable development is not a static condition, a sort of "heaven on earth" provided in advance by following certain formulae, but rather a dynamic process which will certainly never be completed, but always brought into question. This is why the 5th meeting of the MCSD in Rome preferred to use the term "indicators for sustainable development" rather than "indicators of sustainable development" which is regularly used elsewhere. These indicators- which must be carefully quantifiable but may also be qualitative factors- must enable us to see where we stand, where we are going, and how we compare to others (countries, regions, localities), and to decide on approaches, choices, measures and policies as a result. They pool and synthesise multiple and dissimilar data, making the information more immediate and meaningful, and simplifying it in order to highlight what are often complex phenomena.

## A long path

Following Rio, institutions such as the OECD, the Scientific Committee on Problems in the Environment (SCOPE), UNDP, the IFEN, Eurostat and the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (UNO/CSD) started to work intensively on this question. In the Mediterranean, after the adoption in Tunis in 1995 of the Agenda MED 21 programme, the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development, which was created in its wake, chose "indicators" as one of its medium term themes during its first meeting in December 1996. With Tunisia and France as task managers, the Blue Plan as the support centre, eight other Mediterranean countries, the EC and the Ecomediterrania NGO as members, the thematic group on "indicators" held its first workshop in

ment". It is on this basis that a first "common core" of 130 indicators was built up (40 of which came from the UNO/CSD list), 55 being immediately accessible, in other words calculable in the short term using data already available; for the remaining 75, the definition still has to be polished, and the availability of data checked. These indicators are chosen by theme and according to the methodological framework adopted by the UNO/CSD, or are an adaptation of the "Pressure-State- Response" framework originally thought up by the OECD for environmental indicators. For each theme, using the "indicators of pressure", which are still known as "driving forces", an effort is made to describe the processes, means and human activities which seriously affect the theme, the "indicators of state" are used to take a snapshot of an existing situation, whilst

# INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

Tunis in June 1998, after a preliminary report had been presented to the 2nd meeting of the MCSD in May 1997, and the Blue Plan had organised an inter-institutional meeting in May 1997. Tests were run at regional and national level in Tunisia and Slovenia, in order to assess the feasibility of the indicators already chosen. A second workshop organised in May 1999 in Sophia Antipolis gave rise to a first set of indicators which takes account of the list adopted by the UNO/CSD, the particular conditions of the Mediterranean basin, and the relevance and availability of data for a large enough number of countries.

## Methodological and thematic frameworks

At the Tunis workshop, the Blue Plan expert summed up the principles which should govern the selection of indicators for sustainable development in the following terms: they should "be brief but effective", "be Mediterranean", and "concentrate on sustainable develop-

the "response indicators" aim at identifying the decisions, actions and measures (legislative, institutional, financial etc.) which are needed to correct the situation. The "indicator data sheets" then specify the definition and the unit adopted for each indicator. Thus, taking an environmental theme such as air quality, the indicator of pressure would be the emission of greenhouse gases, the indicator of state the concentration of atmospheric pollutants in urban areas, and the indicator of response the proportion of spending earmarked for reducing air pollution. The selection of this first batch of indicators is part of a communication and information process about sustainable development which is to be developed within the MCSD with the assistance of the countries and of the Blue Plan. The process will involve extending and revising the common core depending on the availability and relevance of data (each indicator has a figure attributed to it which assesses the

latter two notions). On the question of indicators, the major importance of the Observatories for the environment and development should be stressed. These are gradually being set up in the riparian states (see opposite article by Silvia Laria), and will be an essential part of the Mediterranean system for understanding sustainable development and supporting the decision-taking process.

### The discussions in Rome

The indicators theme was the first to be examined at the 5th meeting of the MCSD in Rome. The working group presented various proposals for action concerning the common core, the additional indicators, the harmonisation and diffusion of indicators, the drafting of a two-yearly Mediterranean report on sustainable development in the Mediterranean, to be made public (first report expected 2002), the drawing up of national reports, capacity building and follow-up by the MAP/MCSD of the work accomplished in this field (watch role).

Several points were stressed during the discussions. Indicators should not simply rehash national statistics, particularly on environmental issues. Indicators for sustainable development can only achieve their potential value added if they take full account of the most relevant economic, social and environmental factors. Moreover, since the means for collecting the necessary data vary considerably between industrialised and developing countries, indicators should be chosen for which countries at different stages of development can provide data. Even though the proposed indicators are far from perfect, it is time to act, and the funding must be found to organise a solid project in this important field. In the light of these comments the proposals for action were revised in consultation with the members of the MCSD, for submission to the forthcoming meeting of the Contracting Parties in Malta, for adoption. ■

## The national "Observatories" for the environment and development in the Mediterranean countries

by Silvia Laria, Blue Plan

Since the early 90s, Mediterranean countries have seen their environmental policies take off, just as is happening elsewhere in the world. As part and parcel of a movement which has expanded since the Rio Summit in 1992, national plans for the protection of the environment are now drawn up and implemented in more than half the riparian states, aiming not only at making good damage already caused, but also trying ever more so to integrate ecological concerns within a sustainable form of development.

In order to assess the implementation of these "green plans" and to increase understanding of the state of the environment in a country, environment and development "observatories" can represent a powerful instrument for implementing environmental policies as recommended by Agenda 21 and the Agenda MED 21 programme.

Throughout Agenda 21, and particularly in chapter 40, the countries are invited to build their capacity for follow-up and assessment of progress towards sustainable development; to adopt appropriate indicators for measuring socio-economic, environmental and spatial developments; to collect, cross-check and process relevant data; to produce useful information for the decision-takers; and finally, to circulate this information amongst as many stakeholders as possible.

As an upshot to these recommendations, environment and development "observatories" are gradually springing up in the Mediterranean countries. Generally speaking, they are very new structures, located in

ministries and environmental agencies, themselves relatively young. These initiatives have come into being in very different contexts, including in terms of understanding the environment and the conceptual approaches used; they have also progressed to very different degrees. In the countries on the northern rim, observation and assessment structures have developed at centralised level as in France (Institut français de l'environnement-IFEN), or at national/regional level as in Spain or Italy. In some countries to the south or east, observatory projects have been launched with the backing of various sponsors (EC-LIFE Programme, UNDP, UNESCO), and the assistance of MAP/Blue Plan. In Morocco and Tunisia, environment and development observatories are now up and running; in Turkey and the Lebanon, they are in their preparatory stages; in Syria, the feasibility study for an observatory has been completed.

Elsewhere in the Mediterranean (Slovenia, Israel, Egypt, Algeria...), efforts are being undertaken to integrate the observation/assessment role into existing environmental institutions.

Usually, the regular publication of "Reports on the state of the environment" is part and parcel of an Observatory's job. These reports reflect the state of the environment, the pressure of human activity, responses from society (public authorities, public and private companies, households and consumers) to environmental concerns. Drafting these reports requires amongst other things the creation of highly diversified networks of partners who provide data (sectoral administrations, sta-

tistical institutes, public thematic bodies, academic circles, NGOs).

The Blue Plan, within the framework of its mission as a Mediterranean Observatory under the aegis of MAP, and with the support of the European Commission (LIFE Programme), has for several years been contributing to the emergence of these "observatories" in the countries on the southern and eastern rims of the Mediterranean. Support for the different projects has taken the form of various activities carried out at different levels:

At country level, through technical assistance for preparatory and feasibility studies, and support for the presentation of dossiers to sponsors; At regional level, through partnership work in creating a common core of indicators for sustainable development in the Mediterranean countries, and through the promotion of experience sharing in areas of common interest.

It is within this context that the Blue Plan is organising a workshop scheduled for next November in Tunis, with the support of the Tunisian Agency for the Protection of

the Environment (ANPE) and the scientific support of the IFEN. The aim is to encourage an exchange of ideas about progress achieved in integrating data and information in line with Agenda 21, and to make headway in setting up a network of general environmental and development observatories in the Mediterranean.

#### **Tunisia:**

*project for an **Environment and Development***

**Observatory (OTED)** initiated by the Ministry for the Environment (MEAT) in 1995, with the financial backing of the UNDP. Project headed up by National Agency for the Protection of the Environment (ANPE). A seven strong team is responsible for implementation, assisted by consultants. Main achievements: diagnosis of the situation concerning environmental information; study into setting up of environmental monitoring networks; preparation and circulation on behalf of MEAT of the **Annual Reports on the State of the Environment in Tunisia** (1995, 1996, 1997, 1998); trial of indicators for sustainable development.

#### **Morocco:**

*project for **National Environment Observatory for Morocco (ONEM)***

initiated in 1992 by the former Under Secretary of State for the Environment, assisted by UNEP and UNESCO. 20 member team. Located within the Ministry for the Environment. Main achievements: inventory of pollution in the country; inventory of producers, data and information about the **environment**; drawing up of environment **indicators** linked to quantified quality objectives to be reached by 2005 and 2020 in six priority areas.

For the Mediterranean, the interest of these concerted activities at national and regional level lies in gradually harmonising methods and approaches, particularly in the area of indicators, where comparability in time and space is a major factor of efficiency. In the medium term, this work could open up new lines of action for the main Mediterranean partners, as well as for the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development. ■

## C O A S T A L P L A N N I N G

### THE RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR THE FUKA-MATROUH AREA

WERE PRESENTED IN CAIRO

**T**he Fuka-Matrouh area was chosen in 1988 by the Egyptian government for a MAP Coastal Area Management Programme because, with its problems and the concerns to which it was giving rise for the long term, it seemed to be representative of the whole of the Egyptian coastline. As was noted by the Egyptian experts from the University of Alexandria in their preliminary

study for the integrated management plan, "the most serious impact on this coastal area stems from uncontrolled urban development. Tourism in the area has increased at an alarming rate. Bathing centres and "holiday villages" have mushroomed, without due account being taken of the area's natural resources and carrying capacity". Thus an official agreement was signed in

1992 between the Egyptian government and MAP- in accordance with CAMP philosophy, all of the Regional Activity Centres and MED POL committed themselves to carrying out a range of activities in the field, in close association with national and local authorities and experts, with the aim of ensuring sustainable development in the area.

### Bedouins and Immigrants

This area, located on the North western Mediterranean coast of Egypt, stretches between the towns of Matrouh to the west, and Fuka to the east (210 km from Alexandria). It is a strip of coastline about 100 km long, and 10 - 20 km wide. It belongs to the governate of Matrouh, which represents 22% of the country's total surface area, but which has a population density of only one inhabitant per km<sup>2</sup> (compared with 1500 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> for most of the governates in the Nile valley and delta!). 40% of the population of the CAMP's area is concentrated in the town of Marsa-Matrouh (90.000 inhabitants). The population is made up of two different social groups: the native Bedouins, and the immigrants from the Nile valley. In the past the Bedouins led a nomadic life, and have settled in the rural areas where they grow trees and breed animals; the immigrants work in administration and construction. Because of fluctuations in annual rainfall, income generated by animal breeding and farming tends to be very unreliable. The Egyptian government is striving to increase the population in the area by diversifying the sources of

income, controlling tourist development whilst respecting the environment, and constructing a major water supply network involving pipelines and desalination plants.

### The conclusions of six years of study

All the tools of integrated management, including remote sensing, were used to draw up a series of in-depth studies (species and habitats, tourist carrying capacity, legislation in force, land, desertification, pollution, etc.), which culminated in the drafting of the final integrated report, which summed up the results of the many experts' missions, joint workshops, and sectoral reports. The final report was presented in Cairo in July 1999 to all the stakeholders. The national and local authorities in Egypt now have at their fingertips a comprehensive set of conclusions and proposals for action, from which the following main thrusts can be drawn: building upon the demographic decentralisation policy in order to attract people from the overpopulated areas of the Nile valley to this area; creating a corridor for development and transport along the north-west coast in order to encourage

trade (particularly with Libya); spatial dissipation and diversification of tourist activities in order to ease pressure on vulnerable sites, ensuring that the local population benefits from the jobs created; rational land use according to a linear concept of concerted planning from the coast to the hinterland; the introduction of new and better adapted farming techniques; protection of the area's national and cultural heritage (see box p.15).

Since urban development projects can trigger clashes with local Bedouin populations, with their culture, way of life and traditional activities, the Cairo conference stressed how imperative it was to involve the representatives of these peoples from the very beginning of the projects, and not to take any decisions without first consulting them and getting their support. This participatory approach is in fact one of the keys to the success of the Fuka- Matrouh CAMP, as it will be for all the other CAMPS already running or planned for the future (*cf. Fuka- Matrouh CAMP, Final Integrated Report, June 1999, PAP/RAC, P. O. Box 74, Split, Croatia*). ■



## The Fuka-Matrouh CAMP: the cultural heritage

### *In the steps of Alexander the Great*

The north-west coastline of Egypt has long attracted the attention of travellers (the first known account dates back to the VIth century B.C.), and since the end of the XIXth century it has drawn archaeological teams interested in the diversity of its coastal, land and underwater cultural heritage- from the late Bronze Age to the Byzantine Era, passing through the Pharaonic, Hellenistic, Roman and Arab periods. Since the second millennium B.C. the region was enjoyed a privileged relationship with the island of Cyprus. Bates Island (after the archaeologist who excavated it in 1927), near the modern town of Marsa-Matrouh, appears to have been an important trade centre. Many remains of Cypriot origin (particularly pottery) were found there. The founding of the town of Marsa-Matrouh, known in Antiquity as Paraetonium, then El Bartum in the Arab period, is linked with the passage of Alexander the Great. The Macedonian conqueror, having founded Alexandria (332 B.C.), was en route for the oasis of Siwa which sheltered the temple and the oracle of Amon, in order to have his divine ascendancy consecrated. A turning point in Antiquity: by instituting the cult of the sovereign, counter to the beliefs of the classical Greek age, Alexander was introducing a religious interpretation of the monarchic ideology, which would be adopted by his successors in the Hellenistic era, then by the Roman Emperors.

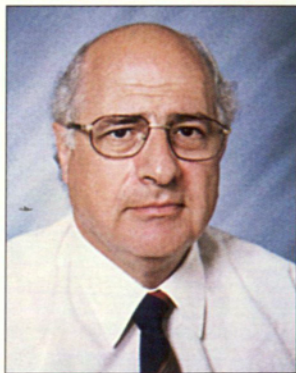
(For a detailed bibliography of the archaeological aspects, see special report on the Fuka-Matrouh area by the Atelier du Patrimoine/ 100 Historic Sites, 10 ter Square Belzunce, 13001 Marseille, France).

## E C H O S F R O M M A P • E C H O S F R O M M A P

### Two leave MAP's Coordinating Unit

Two Programme Officers who clearly shaped the life of MAP for more than fifteen years left the Coordinating Unit recently: G.P. Gabrielides who resigned in March in order to take up a new post back in his country, and I. Dharat, who took early retirement in July.

#### **G.P. Gabrielides,**



a Cypriot, graduated in Marine Science (BS) from the University of Liverpool (R-U) in 1967. On returning to Cyprus he joined the Department of Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, as head of the section for marine science and pollution. He was then given a grant to return to England where he was awarded an M.Sc in Marine Science. Between 1975 and 1983 he worked at the

Athens Institute for Oceanographic and Fisheries Research. He was particularly responsible for coordinating the MED POL programme on behalf of Greece. In 1983, he was appointed to the Coordinating Unit of MAP as a fisheries expert (marine pollution), in charge of FAO participation in the MED POL programme. As such, he organised and supervised countless activities, meetings, scientific colloquia, and drafting of documents in a great variety of areas of pollution assessment in the Mediterranean. What stands out in particular from this activity is his preparation for the introduction of biomonitoring into the national monitoring programmes. At the workshop which he organised in Heraklion in March 1998 on *Caulerpa taxifolia*, where he kicked off by saying that he wanted "the facts, and nothing but the facts", his spirit of conciliation and cordial calmness allowed him to pull off what the rapporteur for the workshop called an "exploit": for the first time ever the entire scientific community without exception agreed on the risk which this invasive alga posed for the ecological balance. When he returned to Cyprus in March 1999, G. P. Gabrielides went back to the Department of Fisheries of his youth, only this time as its...Director. The regulars at MAP meetings will not be losing sight of him, however: his new position means that he will often be there representing his country.

#### **Of Ibrahim Dharat,**



Libyan, it can be said straight out that his whole career developed under the auspices of the United Nations since, after studying economics in Benghazi, followed by a three year stint in the Libyan Ministry for Foreign Affairs, in 1971 he became Head of the United Nations Section of the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs in Tripoli and, in 1975 in New York, Counsellor for Economic Affairs at the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations. He was a member of the Libyan delegation at many sessions of the General Assembly, and would even act as alternant representative for his country to the Security Council. In 1984, he was appointed Senior Programme Officer (economist) at the Athens Unit, where he remained until his retirement last July. He was responsible for coordinating the different environmental components and integrating them into MAP's objectives. He achieved in particular, within the framework of MAP restructuring, the launch in 1989, and later the coordination and supervision of the various Coastal Areas Management Programmes (CAMPs). For the representatives of the Contracting Parties, I. Dharat also acted as technical secretary to each of the two-yearly ordinary meetings, MAP's highest decision-taking body. Mixing sternness and politeness, discretion and efficiency, he ensured each time round that the views of all delegations were faithfully reflected in the report, and that an often shaky compromise could then be reached in the interests of the Mediterranean. In 1997 the Tunisian government awarded him the medal for "Best Environmental Project" at the Tenth Ordinary Meeting. The Eleventh Meeting next October in Malta, to which the Parties have officially and exceptionally invited him, will have the opportunity of confirming to him that he has been a great architect of Mediterranean cooperation.

## MAP Technical Reports Series

(e-mail: adavaki@unepmap.gr)

### WMO/UNEP-MAP: MED POL

*Manual on Sampling and Analysis of Aerosols and Precipitations for Major Ions and Trace Elements*

This manual was drawn up at a WMO/UNEP workshop held in November 1987 for the MED POL programme on monitoring air-borne pollution which was initiated in 1988. The sampling and analytical procedures dealt with were recommended in a series of workshops and expert meetings held during MED POL Phase II. The manual concludes with a chapter on data quality assessment. The interest of the manual becomes clear when one realises that the results of modelling and measurements of atmospheric deposition of pollutants on the Mediterranean Sea have been indicating for over a decade that for many pollutants their atmospheric inputs could be as big as the corresponding riverine inputs. This is an important conclusion, not only from a scientific point of view, but also in terms of the development of the strategies, policies and legal instruments for the protection of the Mediterranean marine environment which will characterise Phase III of MED POL. (No. 123 of the series, Athens/MAP, 1998, 166 pages, only in English).

**UNEP/WHO:** *Identification of priority pollution hot spots and sensitive areas in the Mediterranean.* This is an official MAP document, drawn up by the Coordinating Unit's WHO office, and which swings in with the start of the Strategic Actions Programme for combating pollution from land-based sources, approved and co-financed by the GEF in 1996, and adopted by the Contracting Parties in Tunis in 1997. Behind the document lies the

need to identify in each Mediterranean country those sites where pollution is most serious, with the pollutant loads in question, in order to have a detailed list of sites demanding a "pre-investment study" as a priority. This is with a view to interventions (second stage of the GEF project for the Mediterranean) which will characterise Phase III of MED POL. (For developments in the SAP/GEF project cf. Medwaves nos. 34 and 35-36). (No. 124 of the series, Athens/MAP, 1999, 102 pages, in French and in English).

### UNEP/MAP: *Proceedings of the workshop on invasive Caulerpa species in the Mediterranean.*

The Heraklion (Crete, Greece) workshop was one of the important links in a long chain of meetings, colloquia, and conferences- to say nothing of the controversy stirred up by the media- caused by the appearance in 1984 of the alga whose aquarium origin has been genetically proven (see *Caulerpa* dossier, Medwaves no. 34, and Medwaves nos. 37 and 38), and its subsequent spectacular spread over following years throughout the western Mediterranean. The volume contains the report from the workshop, the recommendations adopted, the 13 scientific presentations made, and the official reports from the 15 Mediterranean countries represented at the workshop (No. 125 of the series, Athens/MAP, 1999, 317 pages, in English and in French).

### UNEP-MAP/ MCSD- BLUE PLAN:

Report of the workshop on tourism and sustainable development, Antalya, Turkey, 17- 19 September, 1999. This important volume contains the summary of the workshop, the minutes of the 9 sessions with their speeches, the presentations on the various themes tackled, the reports

from the three working groups, as well as the 4 annexes, one of which brings together the 21 case studies in various Mediterranean countries. A first "general survey" of the question on which Medwaves sketched out the major lines in its last issue (No. 126 of the series, Athens/MAP, 1999, 288 pages, in English and French according to the original language of the studies and presentations).

## REVIEWS



### Algeria

#### Environnement:

This quarterly review in Arabic and French has been published since spring 1999 by the Algerian State Secretariat for the Environment. Its first issue covered the complex institutional path followed by Algeria- as with so many other countries, in fact- to tackle the environment. Indeed, since 1974 this area was successively placed under the aegis of eight ministries and three different State Secretariats, before becoming a Secretariat of State in its own right in 1996. The second issue dealt in particular with children and the environment, and bathing waters. This publication which is aimed at the general public does not shy away from calling a spade a spade, or from pointing out shortcomings and deficiencies. It sheds light and provides much needed information.